

Mid-East Prophecy Update – July 17th, 2011

- Every week, since back in 2006, we have set aside a few minutes on Sunday mornings so as to devote some time to studying Bible prophecy.
- The reason that we do this is because the Bible predicts certain specific events that will take place in the last days before the Lord returns.
- We believe that what's happening in the world today is a fulfillment of those Bible Prophecies, and that the rapture could happen at any time.

- We look primarily at events in the Middle East, specifically related to Israel because, as it's been said; "Israel is God's prophetic clock."

- It has been about a month and a half since we did our last prophecy update, which was back on June 5th. I'm glad to see that you all survived!
- During these last six weeks, I've had a number of people ask me about the prophetic implications related to everything that's been happening.
- One of my favorite's was posted on our Calvary Chapel Kaneohe Facebook page from Australia, and he quotes someone on the mainland.

"I'm too lazy to write, so I copied this message from 28 June!!!!!! it's just easier. "Pastor, HELP!! We need prophecy. We are doing more than twitching. We are in full blown seizures!! Do you see what is going on around the world? Earthquakes Galore, sinkholes, solar flares. HELP!!"thanks Steve.....y'know Pastor, he's right, we do need some prophesy.....and worst of all my rugby team lost last night (in Australia) and as you can see [from the picture] I'm really, really depressed!!! hehehehehehe! so thanks Pastor, thanks"

- I share that to say this; I won't be covering everything that was happening back in June, I will covering what may be happening in September.
- Actually, I believe that what's been happening, and is even now happening, may in fact be leading up to what could be happening very soon.
- Now, before we go any further, it is absolutely critical that you don't misunderstand what I'm about to share with you as being "date setting."

- I simply wish to present to you some very fascinating information, that seemingly points to a most exciting month, in September of this year.
- What I'll do is list a few upcoming events, and in so doing, suggest that they're not a cosmic coincidence, rather, they're God's providence.
- So, I'll begin as I always do, by encouraging you to be like the Bereans and search the scriptures for yourself, and not just take my word for it.

1. In September, the United Nations General Assembly will consider a much anticipated resolution that would recognize a Palestinian State.
- This may come packaged with the dividing of Israel, the returning to pre 1967 borders, and will in all likelihood move Jerusalem's boundaries.
- Be that as it may, and suffice it to say, this would fulfill a myriad of prophecies, one of which was recorded by Zechariah in chapter twelve.

Zechariah 12:1-3 NIV (1) This is the word of the LORD concerning Israel. The LORD, who stretches out the heavens, who lays the foundation of the earth, and who forms the spirit of man within him, declares: (2) "I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem. (3) On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.

2. In September, Egypt commences its first election since ousting President Hosni Mubarak, making a Muslim Brotherhood rule imminent.
- Presupposing that this happens, this September, it has the propensity to put the puzzle pieces of Bible prophecy in place as it relates to Israel.
- Back in January, we did an extensive study of Egypt in Bible prophecy on one of our updates, as we turned our attention to Isaiah chapter 19.

Isaiah 19:1-4 NIV An oracle concerning Egypt: See, the LORD rides on a swift cloud and is coming to Egypt. The idols of Egypt tremble before him, and the hearts of the Egyptians melt within them. (2) "I will stir up Egyptian against Egyptian— brother will fight against brother, neighbor against neighbor, city against city, kingdom against kingdom. (3) The Egyptians will lose heart, and I will bring their plans to nothing; they will consult the idols and the spirits of the dead, the mediums and the spiritists. (4) I will hand the Egyptians over to the power of a cruel master, and a fierce king will rule over them," declares the Lord, the LORD Almighty.

3. In September, what's being dubbed as "Comet Elenin" will enter into our inner-solar system and pass between the Earth and the Sun.
- Some are speculating and predicting that it may in fact be a what's called a "Dwarf Star," or even a planet, which if it is will bring darkness.
- What's interesting is not only when it happens; September 28th, but for how long it happens; three days! This has a Biblical significance.

Ed Vallowe in his book, "Biblical Mathematics, Keys to Scripture Numeric's," says; "Three is the number of resurrection, divine completeness and perfection. ...The number three is very prominent in the three-fold ascriptions in the Book of Revelation. Jesus Christ is spoken of as 'He which is and was and is to come...'

- What's even more intriguing is the Biblical significance of the three days of darkness that Elenin causes, chief of which was at the crucifixion.
- There were three hours of darkness the day Jesus was crucified. Subsequent to the crucifixion He spent three days in the darkness of Hades.
- The Apostle Paul was blind and in darkness for three days, and the plague of darkness that struck Egypt in the Exodus, lasted for three days.

4. In September, beginning on the 29th, Israel celebrates the Feast of Trumpets, Rosh Hashanah, which is the fifth of the seven feasts of Israel.
- For those of you who were with us in our study of Leviticus, you may remember how these feasts paint a powerful prophetic picture of Christ.
- The first four feasts were fulfilled at the first coming of Christ, thus it's believed that the fifth feast is fulfilled at the rapture of the bride of Christ.

REFERENCE	FEAST	FULFILLMENT
(Leviticus 23:5)	Passover	The Crucifixion
(Leviticus 23:6-8)	Unleavened Bread	The Burial
(Leviticus 23:9-14)	First-Fruits	The Resurrection
(Leviticus 23:15-22)	Pentecost	The Church Age
(Leviticus 23:23-25)	Trumpets	The Rapture of the Church
(Leviticus 23:26-32)	Day of Atonement	The 2 nd Coming
(Leviticus 23:33-43)	Tabernacles	The Kingdom Age and Heaven

- Some argue the Rapture of the Church can't be on the Feast of Trumpets because Matthew 24:36 says we can't know the day or the hour.
- Actually, yes it can, here's why; Jesus used a Jewish idiom for the feast of Trumpets when He said that "no man knows the day or the hour."
- The Jews were unable to identify the exact start of the new moon which would begin the Feast of Trumpets, so it was celebrated for "3" days.

- It was for this reason that the Priests had to always be watching, and be ready, for the new moon in Jerusalem so they could blow the trumpet.
- When the trumpet sounded the feast began, but they all had to be ready, for they knew not the day nor the hour that the trumpet would sound.
- OK, can't today's technology pinpoint the moons exact position? Not if Comet Elenin brings darkness, and it would be as a thief in the night.

- I'll end how I began by saying that I am in no way setting any dates, however, these dates in September arguably warrant further evaluation.
- What I mean by that is this; while a September 2011 rapture may not be deemed probable, it should most certainly be seen as being possible.
- Lastly, I would rather present this possibility and have it not happen, as opposed to not presenting this possibility and then have it happen.